

**Claims 1-19: Canceled**

1 | **20.** (currently amended) The method set forth in claim ~~17~~25 wherein:  
2 |       the step of making a lay-up includes the steps of:  
3 |       wrapping each tube in the joint with a first carbon fiber fabric that is impregnated with the  
4 | matrix material, the ends of the fabric extending beyond the tube;  
5 |       wrapping the ends of the carbon fiber fabric that is wrapped around a given tube around the  
6 | tube the given tube joins to;  
7 |       wrapping the entire joint in a second carbon fiber fabric whose fibers have an orientation  
8 | different from that of the fibers in the first carbon fiber fabric.

1 | **21.** (canceled)

1 | **22.** (canceled)

1 | **23.** (original) The method set forth in claim 20 wherein:  
2 |       the step of wrapping the entire joint is done such that all seams in the second carbon fiber  
3 | fabric are at the top and bottom of the tubes and the second carbon fiber fabric is overlapped at the  
4 | seams.

1 | **24.** (canceled)

1   **25.** (new) A method of making a lug for a joint that joins carbon fiber tubes in a bicycle  
2   frame,

3   the method comprising the steps of:

4           making a lay-up of at least carbon fibers and a matrix material around the tubes at  
5   the joint, the lay-up forming a continuous wrap around the tubes;

6           applying a mold to the joint, the applied mold's inner surface completely  
7   enclosing the lay-up and the tubes at the joint and the inner surface having a lining of  
8   silicon which is trapped between the inner surface and the enclosed lay-up and tubes; and

9           applying heat to the mold's interior, the heat causing the lay-up to cure and further  
10   causing the trapped silicon to expand against the mold's inner surface and compact the  
11   enclosed lay-up against the tubes evenly throughout the lug, whereby voids in the lug are  
12   prevented.

1   **26.** (new) The method set forth in claim 25 wherein:

2           the mold conducts heat; and

3           in the step of applying heat, the mold is made of a heat-conducting material and  
4   the heat is applied to the mold.

1   **27.** (new) the method set forth in claim 25 wherein:

2           the distance between the inner surface of the mold and a tube being joined  
3   decreases as the distance from the joint increases,  
4   whereby the lug tapers towards the tube.